United Nations A/71/451

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 99

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

"(b) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

"(c) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

"(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

"(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

"(f) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

"(g) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

"(h) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament"

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 69/75 and 69/71 of 2 December 2014 and 70/61, 70/62, 70/63, 70/64, 70/65 and 70/66 of 7 December 2015.

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2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme (A/71/95 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (A/71/125);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/71/127);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (A/71/128);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (A/71/153);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/71/293).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.51

5. At the 14th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services" (A/C.1/71/L.51).

6. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.51 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.39

7. At the 25th meeting, on 1 November, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Peru, Portugal, Samoa, Thailand and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" (A/C.1/71/L.39). Subsequently, Canada, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, the Philippines and Spain joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.39 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.10

9. At the 11th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Chile, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/71/L.10). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, the Congo, Ecuador, Indonesia, Jordan, Maldives, Mauritius, the Sudan and Trinidad and Tobago joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At its 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.10 by a recorded vote of 128 to 50, with 8 abstentions (see para. 23, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:[2]

[2] The delegation of Honduras subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Belarus, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan.

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.50

11. At the 15th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Australia, Georgia and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa" (A/C.1/71/L.50). Subsequently, Germany joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.50 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.60

14. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Peru, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/71/L.60).

15. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.60 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.27

16. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, El Salvador, India, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" (A/C.1/71/L.27). Subsequently, Indonesia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of) and Samoa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.27 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VI).

G. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.67

18. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of the Central African Republic, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/C.1/71/L.67).

19. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.67 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VII).

H. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.62

20. At the 21st meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" (A/C.1/71/L.62).

21. At the 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.62 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VIII).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

23. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[2] to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[3] including its decision to continue the programme,

Noting that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and a better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its 38 years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

Recognizing the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

Recalling all the resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

Believing that the forms of assistance available under the programme to Member States, in particular to developing countries, will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[3] and the guidelines approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;[4]

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[1] A/71/95 and Corr.1.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9-13, document A/S-12/32.

[4] A/33/305.

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success, in particular to the Governments of China, Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland for continuing extensive and highly educative study visits for the participants in the programme during 2015 and 2016;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Court of Justice, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for organizing specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

Draft resolution II
United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[1]

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

Recalling its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998, 55/34 A of 20 November 2000, 57/90 of 22 November 2002, 59/103 of 3 December 2004, 61/95 of 6 December 2006, 63/81 of 2 December 2008, 65/81 of 8 December 2010, 67/67 of 3 December 2012, and 69/71 of 2 December 2014,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating, as widely as possible, information on arms control and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

3. *Commends with satisfaction* the launch of *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* for 2014 and 2015, as well as its online editions, by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme continue to inform, educate and generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms control and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and that it focus its efforts:

(a) To continue to publish *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, the flagship publication of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in all official languages,

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[2] A/71/153.

as well as its *Occasional Papers*, *Study Series* and other ad hoc information materials in accordance with the current practice;

(b) To continue to update the disarmament website as a part of the United Nations website in as many official languages as feasible;

(c) To promote the use of the Programme as a means to provide information related to progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament measures;

(d) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(e) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of all support extended to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and once again invites all Member States to make further contributions to the Fund with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[3] which reviews the implementation of the recommendations made in the 2002 study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[4]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

[3] A/71/124 and Add.1.
[4] A/57/124.

Draft resolution III
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[1]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[2] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and which would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2016 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 70/62 of 7 December 2015,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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[1] A/51/218, annex.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

Draft resolution IV
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stipulated that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the Regional Centre, the most recent of which is resolution 70/66 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling further its resolution 67/48 of 3 December 2012, in which the General Assembly recognized the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

Noting that 2016 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the Regional Centre,

Welcoming the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre, the African Union and African subregional organizations, in particular their institutions in the fields of disarmament, peace and security, as well as between the Centre and relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa, and considering the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 200th meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009,

Recalling the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[1] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

Recalling also the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States, which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States, which is of particular relevance in 2016 as the Regional Centre celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of its establishment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

[1] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).
[2] A/71/128.

2. *Commends* the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for its sustained support to Member States over the past 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in response to the evolving needs of African Member States and the region's new and emerging challenges in the areas of disarmament, peace and security, including maritime security;

4. *Also welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to provide capacity-building, technical assistance programmes and advisory services to the African Union Commission, subregional organizations and African Member States on the control of small arms and light weapons, including on stockpile management and destruction, the Arms Trade Treaty[3] and issues related to weapons of mass destruction, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;

5. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its assistance to the African Union Commission in the elaboration and implementation of the African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy and in the elaboration of the African Union Common Position on an Arms Trade Treaty, as well as its assistance to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[4]

6. *Welcomes* efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provided to Central African States in the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[5] as well as the substantive support provided by the Centre to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, to Central and West African States in the elaboration of their respective common positions on the Arms Trade Treaty, to West Africa on the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and on security sector reform initiatives, to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons and to African Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and of the Convention on the

[3] See resolution 67/234 B.

[4] A/50/426, annex.

[5] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction;[6]

8. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States, upon request, on the Arms Trade Treaty, including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and workshops;

9. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of African States;

10. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in view of the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Regional Centre and in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[1]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

Draft resolution V
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolution 70/63 of 7 December 2015, as well as all previous resolutions on the Regional Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development, and emphasizing the role of the Centre in providing support for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1]

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to several countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance activities for the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control instruments,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate and in line with the requests for assistance by Member States,

Welcoming the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[3]

Welcoming also the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to some States, upon request, in the management and securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities, in particular the establishment of a regional training centre in Port of Spain to manage weapons stockpiles,

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[1] Resolution 70/1.

[2] A/71/127.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

Welcoming further the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010, 67/48 of 3 December 2012, 68/33 of 5 December 2013 and 69/61 of 2 December 2014,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[4] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining the support provided by the Regional Centre for strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[5] as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Recognizing the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Welcoming, during 2017, the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament and the activities to promote their important role in providing support for the initiatives and programmes requested by the Member States for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;

2. *Welcomes* the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, nuclear disarmament, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and

[4] See A/59/119.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

explosives, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States, as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and maximizing the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development, in the promotion of the participation of women in this field and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development and to provide, upon request and in accordance with its mandate, support to Member States of the region in the national implementation of relevant instruments, inter alia, the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[3] and the Arms Trade Treaty,[6] as well as in the implementation of the Caribbean 1540 programme on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

[6] See resolution 67/234 B.

Draft resolution VI
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

Welcoming also the joint efforts by the Government of Nepal and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat to resume the operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu, following the temporary relocation of the Centre to Bangkok in the aftermath of the earthquakes in Nepal in 2015,

Recalling the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including a workshop on capacity-building for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in Manila on 25 and 26 November 2015; the fourteenth United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues, held in Seoul on 7 and 8 December 2015; a workshop on building national capacity in small arms and light weapons control, held in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 and 24 February 2016; a South-East Asia regional capacity-building workshop, held in Bangkok on 4 and 5 April 2016; and a workshop on building national and regional capacity for the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty in the Pacific, held in Apia from 13 to 15 September 2016,

Expressing appreciation for the timely execution by Nepal of its host country commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Regional Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible,

[1] A/71/125.

and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing the necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Draft resolution VII
Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 70/64 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Noting the Second Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 22 to 26 August 2016, and noting also the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 6 to 10 June 2016,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,[1]

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[2] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy,

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[1] A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

[2] A/50/474, annex I.

Peace and Development in Central Africa[3] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa.[4]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[5]

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

Recalling its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolution 70/301 of 9 September 2016, and welcoming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and taking note in this regard of the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of a new framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention,

Welcoming the holding of the presidential and legislative elections in the Central African Republic, which led to the re-establishment of the constitutional order with the election of a President and the formation of a new Government, and taking note in that context of the reinstatement of the Central African Republic as a member of the African Union on 7 April 2016,

Expressing continued concern about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of

[3] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.
[4] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.
[5] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

making tangible progress, in particular with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, in the run-up to the donors' conference to be held in Brussels in November 2016,

Expressing concern about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in order to effectively combat the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad Basin region, and taking note of the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the African Union to support the Task Force,

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,[6] and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

4. *Welcomes* the steps taken by States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to facilitate the early entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[7] and encourages States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa,[1] and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

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[6] See resolution 67/234 B.

[7] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

6. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to accelerate their efforts to implement the integrated strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa;

7. *Encourages* the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States, in coordination with the African Union Commission, to accelerate joint efforts to adopt a comprehensive strategy to more effectively and urgently combat the threat posed by Boko Haram, and in this regard urges the two subregional organizations to convene their joint summit at the earliest opportunity in order to adopt a common strategy and develop active cooperation and coordination;

8. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

10. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the African Charter on maritime safety and security and development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

11. *Expresses concern* over the negative impact that poaching and wildlife trafficking have on the ecosystem, human development and regional security, and calls upon Member States to take immediate concerted action to counter this phenomenon, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 69/314 and 70/301;

12. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

13. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests in this regard the assistance of the Secretary-General;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention, as adopted on 19 November 2010 at the thirty-first ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;[8]

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

[8] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

17. *Welcomes* the contribution made by the Congo to the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (Libreville Declaration) on 8 May 2009,[9] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the Trust Fund;

18. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

19. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

20. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the strengthening of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

22. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

23. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

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[9] See A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex.

Draft resolution VIII
United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010, 66/53 of 2 December 2011, 67/63 of 3 December 2012, 68/57 of 5 December 2013, 69/70 of 2 December 2014 and 70/61 of 7 December 2015 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Noting that the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will be marked in 2016 and 2017,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that, in paragraph 178 of the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 30 and 31 August 2012,[4] the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

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[1] A/71/128.
[2] A/71/125.
[3] A/71/127.
[4] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and further strengthening of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Commends* the three regional centres for peace and disarmament for their sustained support to Member States over the past 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

4. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

United Nations A/71/452

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 100

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission"

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984 and 70/67 and 70/68 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High

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Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/71/27);

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2016 (A/71/42);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/71/176);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/71/162).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.6

5. At the 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the representative of the Republic of Korea introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/71/L.6).

6. At the 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.6 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.38

8. At the 19th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Vanuatu, on behalf of the members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/71/L.38).

9. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.38 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

10. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support and concern for the endeavours of the Conference and as calls for the Conference to immediately commence negotiations to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2016 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work, including negotiations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/67 of 7 December 2015, or in agreeing on and implementing a programme of work,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament without further delay, on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2016 session,

Noting with appreciation the significant contributions made at the 2016 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, including the informal discussions, and noting the discussions on the functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/71/27).

Emphasizing the importance of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

Recognizing the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2017 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2016 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2017 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,[2] as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Acknowledges* the fact that the Conference on Disarmament has held a series of substantive formal and informal discussions on items on the agenda of the Conference;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President of the Conference to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

6. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2017 session;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2017 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

9. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on its work;

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[2] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

Draft resolution II
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010, 66/60 of 2 December 2011, 67/71 of 3 December 2012, 68/63 of 5 December 2013, 69/77 of 2 December 2014 and 70/68 of 7 December 2015,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission",[2] Assembly decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission and Assembly resolution 61/98, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[3]

Emphasizing once again the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament, notes that the Commission has not submitted any substantive recommendations to the General Assembly in the course of the past 17

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/71/42).
[2] Resolution 44/119 C, annex.
[3] Resolution S-10/2.

years, and thus encourages the revitalization of the work of the Commission in its current triennial cycle;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion on the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[3] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982 and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[2]

5. *Recalls* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492, at its 355th meeting, on 4 April 2016, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2016,1 on the understanding that consultations would continue on ways and means to implement resolution 69/77, and that the Commission decided that the agenda for its substantive session of 2015 should serve for the period 2015-2017;

6. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2017:

(a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(b) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

7. *Notes* the consultations with Member States conducted by the Chair of the Disarmament Commission during its intersessional period regarding a working paper containing a proposal for the inclusion of a third item in its agenda for the remaining period of the present triennial cycle[4] in the context of considering ways and means to implement General Assembly resolution 69/77, in accordance with Assembly decision 52/492, and encourages the Commission to hold informal discussions on the subject contained in the above-mentioned working paper during the substantive session of the Commission in 2017, without prejudice to the deliberations on the existing agenda items;

8. *Also notes* that the Disarmament Commission encourages the Chairs of its working groups to continue, during the intersessional period, informal consultations on the agenda item allocated to each of the groups;

9. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to invite, as appropriate, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to prepare background papers on the items on its agenda and, if need be, other disarmament experts to present their views, as provided for in paragraph 3 (e) of resolution 61/98, upon the invitation of the Chair and with the prior approval of the Commission;

10. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2017, namely from 3 to 21 April, and to submit a

[4] A/CN.10/2016/WP.1.

substantive report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, and stresses that the report of the Commission should contain a summary by the Chair of the proceedings to reflect different views or positions if no agreement can be reached on the specific agenda item deliberated on, as provided for in paragraph 3.4 of the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 2016 session,[5] together with all the official records of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

12. *Invites* Member States to submit their views and proposals on the matter early enough to enable practical consultations among them prior to the beginning of the substantive session of 2017 of the Disarmament Commission, with a view to facilitating its constructive outcome, and in this regard encourages the Chair-designate to commence consultations and preparations for the substantive session of 2017 in a timely manner upon his or her nomination;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/71/27).

United Nations A/71/453

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 101

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/70 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

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4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (A/71/135 (Part II)).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.1/71/L.2 and Rev.1

5. At the 12th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and the State of Palestine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" (A/C.1/71/L.2).

6. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/71/L.2/Rev.1).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.2/Rev.1, as follows:

(a) The fifth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 165 to 2, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Pakistan.

(b) The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 163 to 2, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Pakistan.

(c) Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.2/Rev.1, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 147 to 6, with 21 abstentions (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:[2]

[2] The delegations of Namibia and Somalia subsequently informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Canada, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 70/70 of 7 December 2015,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(60)/RES/15, adopted on 29 September 2016,

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[1] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[3] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on 11 May 1995,[1] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty, and called upon all States in the Middle East

[1] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

Weapons,[7] and calls for the speedy and full implementation of the commitments contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty[1] is an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Conference and of the basis on which the Treaty was indefinitely extended without a vote in 1995;

3. *Reiterates* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved;

4. *Calls for* immediate steps towards the full implementation of that resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

6. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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[7] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, sect. IV.

United Nations A/71/454

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 102

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/71 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered.

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The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.4

5. At the 18th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Sri Lanka introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" (A/C.1/71/L.4).

6. At the 24th meeting, on 31 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.4 without a vote (see para. 8).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/71 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and its amended article 1,[2] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[1] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[1] and its amended version,[3] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[1] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[4] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[5]

Recalling with satisfaction also the results of the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 14 to 25 November 2011,

Noting the results of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva on 12 and 13 November 2015,

Welcoming the results of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Annual Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 11 November 2015 and 30 August 2016, respectively,

Welcoming also the results of the Ninth and Tenth Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 9 and 10 November 2015 and 29 August 2016, respectively,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of various categories of conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.
[3] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.
[4] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[5]

4. *Welcomes* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and of the respective office holders of the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Protocol V and Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the following decisions by the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(a) The adoption of an accelerated plan of action to promote universality of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(b) The adoption of actions to enhance the implementation of the compliance mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(c) The continuation of the Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention; and, with recognition of the value and importance of the Sponsorship Programme, encourages States to contribute to it;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to convene the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in Geneva from 12 to 16 December 2016, and encourages all efforts towards its successful conclusion;

8. *Also welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law and in this context to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to convene in 2016 a five-day informal meeting of experts to discuss the questions related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems and to agree by consensus on recommendations for further work for consideration by the Fifth Review Conference, welcomes the informal discussions held from 11 to 15 April 2016, and takes note of the comprehensive report of the Chair and the recommendations;

10. *Welcomes* the commitment of States parties to Protocol V to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the

decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

11. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

12. *Acknowledges* the work of the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision by the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

13. *Notes* the work of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Fifth Review Conference held from 31 August to 2 September 2016 under the overall responsibility of the President-designate of the Fifth Review Conference;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services as may be required for the Fifth Review Conference, to be held from 12 to 16 December 2016, and other annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1[2] and the Protocols;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

United Nations A/71/455

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 103

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/72 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered.

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The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (A/71/156 and Add.1).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.30

5. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" (A/C.1/71/L.30). Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Eritrea, Greece, Jordan, Monaco, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 25th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.30 without a vote (see para. 7).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 70/72 of 7 December 2015,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recalling, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

Welcoming the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the

United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

United Nations A/71/456

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 104

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/73 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

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4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (A/71/134 and Add.1).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.28

5. At the 10th meeting, on 13 October, the representative of New Zealand, on behalf of Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United States of America and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" (A/C.1/71/L.28). Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Malaysia, Monaco, Montenegro, the Niger, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 22nd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.28 as follows:

(a) The fourth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 172 to none, with 11 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia,

[2] The delegation of Honduras subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts And Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Syrian Arab Republic.

(b) The seventh preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 177 to none, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

[3] The delegation of Honduras subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, India, Israel, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic.

(c) Draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.28, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with 4 abstentions (see para 7). The voting was as follows:[4]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United

[4] The delegation of Honduras subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Abstaining:

Equatorial Guinea, India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and will be a major contribution to international peace and security,

Stressing also the vital importance and urgency of achieving the entry into force of the Treaty, as noted also in Security Council resolution 2310 (2016) of 23 September 2016, and affirming its resolute determination, 20 years after the Treaty was opened for signature, to achieve its entry into force,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 183 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 166 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 70/73 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling also the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1] in which the Conference, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming the 20 Years CTBT Ministerial Meeting, held in Vienna on 13 and 14 June 2016, which brought together leaders and policymakers to review and reinvigorate efforts to achieve the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming also the Final Declaration adopted by the ninth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 29 September 2015, convened pursuant to article XIV of the

[1] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

Treaty, and recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 21 September 2016,[2]

Noting that the group of eminent persons, established to support the article XIV process, met in Vienna on 14 June 2016, where they called for new thinking and further engagement with the leadership of the remaining eight annex 2 States with the aim of facilitating their respective ratification processes,

Noting also the establishment in early 2016 of a youth group open to all students and young graduates who are directing their careers towards contributing to global peace and security and who wish to actively engage in promoting the Treaty and its verification regime,

Welcoming continuing progress in the development of the Treaty's verification regime, which advances the Treaty's primary non-proliferation and disarmament objective,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty, and encourages their continuation;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Strongly condemns* the nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 6 January and 9 September 2016, as expressed by the Security Council in its resolution 2270 (2016) of 2 March 2016 and the Security Council press statement of 9 September 2016, recalls Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006, 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009 and 2094 (2013) of 7 March 2013, calls for full compliance with the obligations under the relevant resolutions, and reaffirms its support for the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

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[2] A/71/___.

[3] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Welcomes*, since its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Myanmar and Swaziland, since every ratification is a significant step towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. *Also welcomes* the recent expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

10. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

11. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/73;[4]

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

[4] A/71/134 and Add.1.

United Nations A/71/457

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 105

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 70/74 of 7 December 2015.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 2nd to 9th meetings, from 3 to 7 and from 10 to 12 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee had an exchange with the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 13 meetings (10th to 22nd), on 13 and 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered.

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The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 22nd to 26th meetings, on 27 and 28 October and from 31 October to 2 November.[1]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.56

5. At the 13th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" (A/C.1/71/L.56).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/71/L.56 without a vote (see para. 8).

[1] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/71/PV.2, A/C.1/71/PV.3, A/C.1/71/PV.4, A/C.1/71/PV.5, A/C.1/71/PV.6, A/C.1/71/PV.7, A/C.1/71/PV.8, A/C.1/71/PV.9, A/C.1/71/PV.10, A/C.1/71/PV.11, A/C.1/71/PV.12, A/C.1/71/PV.13, A/C.1/71/PV.14, A/C.1/71/PV.15, A/C.1/71/PV.16, A/C.1/71/PV.17, A/C.1/71/PV.18, A/C.1/71/PV.19, A/C.1/71/PV.20, A/C.1/71/PV.21, A/C.1/71/PV.22, A/C.1/71/PV.23, A/C.1/71/PV.24, A/C.1/71/PV.25 and A/C.1/71/PV.26.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that, with the ratification and accession of two additional States,[1] there are now 175 States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[2] including all the permanent members of the Security Council, and stressing at the same time that there is a continuing need to achieve its universalization,

Reaffirming its call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calling upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, later amended by the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference, and to provide such information and data in conformity with the standardized procedure to the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declarations of the Fourth, Sixth and Seventh Review Conferences that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recognizing the importance of ongoing efforts by States parties to enhance international cooperation, assistance and the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes, recognizing also that there still remain challenges and obstacles to be overcome in order to enhance international cooperation, and recognizing further the value of building capacity through

[1] Côte d'Ivoire on 23 March 2016 (ratification) and Angola on 26 July 2016 (accession).
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

international cooperation, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

Reaffirming the importance of national measures, in accordance with constitutional processes, in strengthening the implementation of the Convention by States parties, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

Reaffirming also the importance of the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention,

Noting the decision of the Seventh Review Conference to retain the previous structures from the 2003-2010 intersessional process, consisting of annual meetings of States parties preceded by annual meetings of experts, and to continue to allocate five days to each meeting of States parties and each meeting of experts during the 2012-2015 intersessional process, and noting also the forthcoming conclusion of the current intersessional process,

Recalling the decision of the Seventh Review Conference that the Eighth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2016,

Noting that States parties have established a transparent and inclusive preparatory process for the Eighth Review Conference to consider substantial and procedural issues related to the review of the Convention and its implementation,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful outcome of and the decisions on all provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction[2] reached at the Seventh Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate and actively engage in their continued implementation;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the outcome of the intersessional process agreed by the Seventh Review Conference and the contributions of States parties and relevant international organizations to, as well as presentations by the scientific and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations concerning, the discussion and promotion of common understandings and effective action on the standing agenda items entitled "Cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X", "Review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention" and "Strengthening national implementation" and on the questions of (a) how to enable fuller participation in the confidence-building measures, and (b) how to strengthen implementation of article VII, including consideration of detailed procedures and mechanisms for the provision of assistance and cooperation by States parties, discussed in 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015, respectively;

3. *Appreciates* the information and data on confidence-building measures provided by States parties to date, recalls the discussions on the biennial item on confidence-building measures in 2012 and 2013 and relevant paragraphs of the reports of the meetings of States parties, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data on confidence-building measures called for in the relevant decisions of the review conferences;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a database to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange

of assistance and cooperation, and urges States parties to submit to the Implementation Support Unit, on a voluntary basis, requests for and offers of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information regarding the use of biological and toxin agents for peaceful purposes;

5. *Encourages* States parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X of the Convention and to collaborate to offer assistance or training, upon request, in support of the legislative and other implementation measures of States parties needed to ensure their compliance with the Convention;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a sponsorship programme in order to support and increase the participation of developing States parties in the meetings of the intersessional programme, welcomes the increased amount of voluntary contributions made in 2016, and calls upon States parties in a position to do so to offer voluntary contributions for the programme;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Implementation Support Unit and its contribution to supporting the intersessional process;

8. *Also notes with appreciation* the two meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighth Review Conference, held in Geneva on 26 and 27 April and from 8 to 12 August 2016;

9. *Recalls* that the Eighth Review Conference is mandated to review the operation of the Convention with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Convention are being realized, as provided for in article XII thereof, and to consider issues identified in the review of the operation of the Convention as provided for in article XII thereof and any possible consensus follow-up action;

10. *Urges* all States parties to build upon the discussions of the Preparatory Committee and to continue to work together to achieve a consensus outcome of the Eighth Review Conference;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the events organized by some States parties, regional organizations and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for exchanges of views on the work of the Eighth Review Conference;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to continue to provide such services as may be required for the conduct and the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences, while noting the importance of addressing issues arising from the outstanding dues of States parties and participating States and from financial and accounting practices recently implemented by the United Nations;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

United Nations A/71/459

General Assembly

Distr.: General
9 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 121

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to allocate item 121 to all the Main Committees for the purpose of discussing their working methods, as well as considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

2. The First Committee considered the item at its 26th meeting, on 2 November (see A/C.1/71/PV.26).

3. At the same meeting, the Chair made a statement and introduced the provisional programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2017.

4. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional programme of work and timetable for 2017, as set out in the annex to the present report.

Recommendation of the First Committee

5. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Provisional programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2017

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, approves the provisional programme of work and timetable of the Committee for 2017, as set out in the annex to the report of the Committee.

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Annex

Provisional programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2017

Programme/meeting	*Dates*	*Number of meetings*
Meeting for the organization of work	Thursday, 28 September	1
General debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items[a,b]	Monday, 2 October, to Tuesday, 10 October	7
Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at its previous sessions/presentation of reports		
Closure of the list of speakers for the general debate on all disarmament and international security agenda items	Tuesday, 3 October, at 6 p.m.	
Thematic discussion[c] on specific subjects and introduction and consideration of all draft resolutions and decisions submitted under agenda items, including:	Wednesday, 11 October, to Wednesday, 25 October	12
(a) Exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament		
(b) Panel discussions and exchanges with independent experts		
Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability	Thursday, 12 October	1
Deadline for submission of draft resolutions and decisions under all agenda items	Thursday, 12 October, at 12 noon	
Closure of the list of speakers for the thematic discussion	Monday, 16 October, at 6 p.m.	
Action on all draft resolutions and decisions submitted under agenda items	Thursday, 26 October to Thursday, 2 November	6

[a] A rolling list of speakers will be opened about a month before the beginning of the session. Delegations are encouraged to limit their statements for the general debate to a maximum of 10 minutes; statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed 15 minutes. The list will give priority to high-level representatives and should be shared with the Committee on a regular basis so as to increase transparency.

[b] Wide civil society participation is encouraged.

[c] During thematic discussions, delegations are encouraged to limit their statements to a maximum of 5 minutes; statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed 7 minutes.

Week	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*
25-29 September				28 September afternoon	29 September[a]
2-6 October	2 October morning	3 October morning	4 October morning	5 October morning	6 October morning
9-13 October	9 October afternoon	10 October afternoon	11 October afternoon	12 October morning[b] and afternoon	13 October afternoon
16-20 October	16 October morning and afternoon	17 October morning	18 October morning	19 October[c]	20 October morning
23-27 October	23 October morning and afternoon	24 October afternoon	25 October afternoon	26 October afternoon	27 October afternoon
30 October-3 November	30 October morning	31 October morning	1 November morning	2 November morning[d]	

Note: The Committee will exercise flexibility on the scheduling of the meetings during the last two weeks of the session without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

[a] Yom Kippur floating holiday (see resolutions 69/250 and 70/9).

[b] Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees.

[c] Diwali floating holiday (see resolutions 69/250 and 70/9).

[d] If necessary.

United Nations A/71/459

General Assembly

Distr.: General
9 November 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 135

Programme planning

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren **Hansen** (Australia)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee), the other Main Committees and the plenary of the Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

2. The need did not arise for the First Committee to take up this item during the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

16-19679 (E) 111116

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United Nations A/71/460

General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 December 2016
English
Original: Spanish

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 16

Information and communications technologies for development

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 12th, 16th and 28th meetings, on 13 and 19 October and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 3 and 4 October 2016.[2]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/71/67-E/2016/51 and Corr.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/71/307);

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.12, A/C.2/71/SR.16 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.
[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.2, A/C.2/71/SR.3, A/C.2/71/SR.4, and A/C.2/71/SR.5.

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(c) Letter dated 29 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fortieth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 23 September 2016 (A/71/422);

(d) Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 24 September 2016 (A/71/539);

(e) Letter dated 18 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a proposal entitled "The Millennium Earth Project" (A/C.2/71/4).

4. At the 12th meeting, on 13 October, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Director of the Liaison Office and representative to the United Nations in New York of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.15 and A/C.2/71/L.44

5. At the 16th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" (A/C.2/71/L.15).

6. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Information and communications technologies for development" (A/C.2/71/L.44), submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.15.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.44 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.44 (see para. 11).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.44, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.15 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Decision proposed by the Chair

10. At its 28th meeting, on the proposal of the Chair of the Committee, the Committee took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/71/307).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Information and communications technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010, 66/184 of 22 December 2011, 67/195 of 21 December 2012, 68/198 of 20 December 2013, 69/204 of 19 December 2014 and 70/184 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, 2011/16 of 26 July 2011, 2012/5 of 24 July 2012, 2013/9 of 22 July 2013, 2014/27 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/26 of 22 July 2015, and taking note of Council resolution 2016/22 of 27 July 2016 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from

10 to 12 December 2003,[1] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[2] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[3] and endorsed by the Assembly,[4]

Noting the references to information and communications technologies contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and reiterating calls for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society process and the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[5] held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2015, in which it took stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, addressed potential information and communications technology gaps and identified areas for continued focus,

Reaffirming its common desire and commitment to the World Summit on the Information Society vision as laid out in the Geneva Declaration of Principles,

Recognizing that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies, stressing the need to address prevailing challenges to bridge the digital divides, both between and within countries and between women and men, and to harness information and communications technologies for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides, using a multidimensional approach that includes speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[6]

Noting the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, jointly organized annually by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting also the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and taking note of the report of the Broadband Commission entitled *The State of Broadband 2016: Broadband Catalysing Sustainable Development*, which provides an evaluation of the progress

[1] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.
[2] See resolution 59/220.
[3] See A/60/687.
[4] See resolution 60/252.
[5] Resolution 70/125.
[6] A/71/67-E/2016/51 and Corr.1.

made towards achieving the Commission's advocacy targets for broadband and the state of broadband development worldwide, and the report of the special session of the Commission, entitled "Working together to connect the next 1.5 billion by 2020", in which the Commission noted that less than half the world's population is currently connected to the Internet and fewer than 1 in 10 people in least developed countries are connected,

Noting further the call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Economic and Social Council, and reaffirms the role of the Commission, as set forth in Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit,

Noting the holding of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva from 9 to 13 May 2016,

Recognizing the fact that information and communications technologies are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare, and that the increasing pervasiveness of information and communications technologies within society has had profound impacts on the ways in which Governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers and citizens participate in public and private life,

Stressing, however, that recent progress notwithstanding, there remain important and evident digital divides between developed and developing countries in terms of the availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies and access to broadband, and stressing also the need to close digital divides, including with regard to such issues as the affordability of the Internet, and to ensure that the benefits of information and communications technologies, including new technologies, are available to all,

Reaffirming that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, and emphasizing that progress towards the vision of the World Summit on the Information Society should be considered not only as a function of economic development and the spreading of information and communications technologies but also as a function of progress with respect to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reaffirming also that Internet governance, including the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011, in Baku in 2012, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014, and in João Pessoa, Brazil, in 2015, and the meeting to be held in Jalisco, Mexico, from 6 to 9 December 2016,

Conscious of the challenges faced by States, in particular developing countries, in combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by terrorists, and emphasizing the need to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building activities, at their request, for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such use in accordance with national and international law,

Reaffirming the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its inception, and recognizing that the effective participation, partnership and cooperation of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, have been and continue to be vital in developing the information society,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, trade and development, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both the public and private sectors, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interactions, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

3. *Recognizes* the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[7] and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, accordingly urges all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals, and requests United Nations entities facilitating the World Summit on the Information Society action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Reaffirms* its commitment to bridging digital and knowledge divides, recognizes that its approach must be multidimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access, and acknowledges that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and

[7] Resolution 70/1.

accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of quality and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

5. *Stresses* the important role played by the private sector, civil society and technical communities in information and communications technologies;

6. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[1] and Tunis[2] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, including the least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

7. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Also notes* that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy and that connectivity is correlated with increases in gross domestic product, recognizes the critical importance of expanding the participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy;

9. *Welcomes* initiatives such as "eTrade for All", launched at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, which provides a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to have a clear picture of the programmes that they could fund;

10. *Recognizes* that, despite recent progress, there are still significant digital divides between and within developed and developing countries, including the fact that 30 per cent of the population in developing countries has access to mobile broadband connectivity, compared with 85 per cent in developed countries, and urges all relevant stakeholders to address the growing digital divides between and within countries through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments at all levels and international cooperation to improve affordability, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and appropriate financing, with a continued focus on pro-poor policies on information and communications technology, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level;

11. *Also recognizes* that a gender digital divide persists, with 40.8 per cent of women online, compared with 45.9 per cent of men, encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to information and communications technologies for development, including new technologies, in this respect reiterates its request for relevant United Nations

entities, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to support the implementation and monitoring of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society by placing a new emphasis on gender, and reaffirms the commitment to ensure women's full participation in decision-making processes related to information and communications technologies;

12. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;[6]

13. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard;

14. *Acknowledges* the extension of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum through 2025, as set out in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;[5]

15. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, including discussion on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, in particular those on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

16. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of Governments and stakeholders from all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

17. *Notes* the proposal by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the structure and composition of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2016/22 on 27 July 2016, in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, also notes its ongoing work to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and further notes that the group will ensure full involvement of Governments and other

relevant stakeholders, in particular from developing countries, taking into account all their diverse views and expertise;

18. *Recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome the digital divides, and stresses that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;

19. *Also recognizes* the importance of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to address the challenges and opportunities in relation to the use of the Internet and e-commerce to develop their international trade capacities, among other things;[8]

20. *Further recognizes* that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries, in particular African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural disasters, and that all efforts should be deployed to reduce the price of information and communications technologies and broadband access, bearing in mind that deliberate interventions, including through research and development and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, may be necessary to spur the development of lower-cost connectivity options;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of the free flow of information and knowledge, as the amount of information distributed worldwide grows and the role of communication becomes all the more important, and acknowledges that the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies in school curricula, open access to data, the fostering of competition, the creation of transparent, predictable, independent and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, the facilitation of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure sharing models, community-based approaches and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development;

22. *Notes* the commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for information and communications technology can make significant contributions to development outcomes, in particular where they can reduce the risk of public and private investment, and increase the use of information and communications technology to strengthen good governance and tax collection;

23. *Recognizes* the critical importance of private-sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, encourages Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to

[8] Resolution 69/313, annex.

increased investment and innovation, and also recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end;

24. *Welcomes* the holding of the inaugural forum on financing for development, takes note of its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations, looks forward to further advancement in the follow-up process, welcomes the work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the inaugural multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, to help to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Sustainable Development Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;

25. *Takes note of* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system,[9] submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/130, and decides to discontinue the request made to the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to report to the Assembly on a biennial basis on the implementation of resolution 50/130, contained in that resolution and reiterated in resolution 51/172;

26. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the review process of the World Summit on the Information Society, the summary by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals[10] and other relevant processes, as part of his annual report on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

[9] A/71/307.

[10] E/HLPF/2016/6.